



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steve Beshear, Governor

Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Fleming County Schools earn ENERGY STAR Certification** *State recognizes Fleming County High and Hillsboro Elementary Schools*

**Flemingsburg, Ky.** (Dec. 11, 2014) – Fleming County High School and Hillsboro Elementary School were recognized by the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) and the Kentucky School Boards Association for earning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ENERGY STAR certification. ENERGY STAR is a national symbol for protecting the environment through superior energy performance. Certificates signed by Gov. Steve Beshear were presented during the Dec. 10 meeting of the Fleming County Board of Education.

"Fleming County School District strives to set an example of good environmental and financial stewardship for our students and community," said Fleming County School District Superintendent Brian Creasman. "We promote energy conservation to reduce operating costs which helps to maximize the funds available for instruction programs and support. A dollar saved on energy is a dollar that goes back into the classroom."

Some of the cost effective improvements to Hillsboro Elementary include replacing a coal-fired boiler with a geothermal heating and cooling system, efficient lighting with occupancy sensors and controls to monitor and adjust heating and cooling when the building is not occupied. Energy reductions at the high school resulted from implementing energy management practices such as turning off computers and controlling heating and cooling when the building is not in use and energy efficient lighting retrofits in the gymnasium.

Energy Manager Terry Anderson reports energy efficiency measures save the district \$100,000 annually. "The operational changes, mechanical upgrades, and commitment to environmental stewardship have all contributed to the district meeting its energy goals," said Anderson.

EPA's ENERGY STAR energy performance scale helps organizations assess how efficiently their buildings use energy relative to similar buildings nationwide. A building that scores a 75 or higher on EPA's 100-point scale may be eligible for ENERGY STAR certification.

Originally constructed in 1936, the Hillsboro Elementary School earned an ENERGY STAR score of 83 while the energy efficiency of the 40-year-old Fleming High School ranks in the top 5 percent nationally with an ENERGY STAR score of 95.

Commercial buildings that earn EPA's ENERGY STAR certification use an average of 35 percent less energy than typical buildings and also release 35 percent less carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

For more information about ENERGY STAR certification for commercial buildings: [www.energystar.gov/labeledbuildings](http://www.energystar.gov/labeledbuildings)

For more information about Kentucky's energy efficiency program for schools: [www.energy.ky.gov](http://www.energy.ky.gov)

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